

California Energy Commission

Strategic Plan



Edmund G. Brown, Jr., Governor

Updated: June 2014

Mission

The California Energy Commission was established in 1974 by the Warren-Alquist Act. Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. appointed the first five commissioners in 1975. The Warren-Alquist Act guides all of the Commission's actions. It states:

- The Legislature hereby finds and declares that electrical energy is essential to the health, safety and welfare of the people of this state and to the state economy, and that it is the responsibility of state government to ensure that a reliable supply of electrical energy is maintained at a level consistent with the need for such energy for protection of public health and safety, for promotion of the general welfare, and for environmental quality protection.
- It is the policy of the state and the intent of the Legislature to establish and consolidate the state's responsibility for energy resources, for encouraging, developing, and coordinating research and development into energy supply and demand problems, and for regulating electrical generating and related transmission facilities.
- It is further the policy of the state and the intent of the Legislature to employ a range of measures to reduce wasteful, uneconomical, and unnecessary uses of energy, thereby reducing the rate of growth of energy consumption, prudently conserve energy resources, and assure statewide environmental, public safety, and land use goals.
- It is further the policy of the state and the intent of the Legislature to promote all feasible means of energy and water conservation and all feasible uses of alternative energy and water supply sources.

Values Statement

The California Energy Commission's highest responsibility is to the people of California. We strive to conduct business in a manner that results in maximum public benefit while ensuring fiscal integrity and accountability for the expenditure of funds.

PUBLIC SERVICE

All interactions with the public and others with whom we do business are of utmost importance in carrying out the Energy Commission's responsibilities. Our time, skills, abilities, intelligence, creativity, products, and services are focused on these important relationships, with an emphasis on customer service.

HUMAN RESOURCES

The Energy Commission's most valuable resource is its personnel. Each person is to be treated with dignity, respect, fairness, and understanding. Managers and supervisors strive to recruit, train, develop, and retain employees who are skilled, motivated, creative, intelligent, and reflective of California's cultural diversity. Commissioners and managers are committed to providing the leadership to create a positive work environment for Energy Commission employees that offers opportunities for superior performance, recognition, rewards, and professional fulfillment.

EXCELLENT PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

We are committed to providing excellent products and services that are timely, accurate, reliable, responsive, and useful. All staff strive to continuously improve technologies, processes, structure, and the way we provide analysis, products and services to the public and other stakeholders.

Goals

GOAL 1 – ENERGY POLICY

Make energy public policy recommendations based on relevant and objective information, forecasting and analyses to the Governor, Legislature and other federal, state and local decision makers that promote affordable energy supplies, improve energy reliability, and enhance health, economic well-being and environmental quality.

GOAL 2 – INFORMATION RESOURCES

Collect targeted energy data and provide policy makers, consumers and other stakeholders with useful and objective information and analyses based on that data. Ensure data is managed responsibly and is secure.

GOAL 3 – RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION

Develop and implement Research, Development, Demonstration, and Deployment (RDD&D) policies and programs that promote strategic energy investments to foster innovation to create new energy solutions, cultivate regional innovation and bring clean energy ideas to the marketplace.

GOAL 4 – POWER PLANT SITING

Ensure that all energy facilities approved by the Energy Commission are designed, constructed, operated, and decommissioned in compliance with all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards in a manner that protects the public health and safety, preserves environmental quality, enhances the general welfare, and contributes to an efficient and reliable energy system and well-functioning energy market. Ensure that siting and compliance processes are conducted in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, and on a timely basis.

GOAL 5 – BUILDING AND APPLIANCE EFFICIENCY STANDARDS

Adopt progressive building and appliance energy efficiency standards that will maximize durable and reliable energy efficiency, be flexible with straightforward compliance approaches, and be the foundation for zero net energy buildings and highly efficient appliances.

GOAL 6 – TRANSPORTATION

Promote development and deployment of advanced transportation technology, including alternative and renewable fuels, vehicles, technologies, and infrastructure, to help the state achieve its energy security, petroleum reduction, clean air, and greenhouse gas reduction goals.

GOAL 7 – RENEWABLE ENERGY

Support California’s ambitious, yet achievable, Renewables Portfolio Standard by certifying eligible renewable energy generators, verifying all renewable energy procured by utilities and ensuring progress by publicly owned utilities, and promoting renewable energy in California.

GOAL 8 – EXCELLENCE IN MANAGEMENT

Establish, implement and maintain financial and resource allocation plans, and an organizational structure and information system that supports the Energy Commission in accomplishing its mission, vision and values. Implement staff and management professional development programs and ensure accountability.

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